

STATE FIRE COMMISSION MEETING
Double Tree • Huntington, WV •

April 25, 2019

PLEASE NOTE:

The following minutes have been provided and are considered unofficial, until they are submitted for approval at the next scheduled meeting.

The official business meeting was called to order at 09:00 a.m. by Chairman Grant Gunnoe.

ROLL CALL: by Administrative Secretary Kathryn Burns

Commissioners Present

Edward George, Grant Gunnoe, Dave Camp, Doug Estep, Doug Mongold, Phil Hart, Jim Oldaker, Mark Stroop, Carl Eastham, Martin Hess, Thomas Keefer and Virgil White. It is noted that Counsel Jennifer Wilson is present as well.

Commissioners Absent

Ted Shriver

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Commissioner Mongold made a motion to accept and approve the minutes of the February 8, 2019 Fire Commission Meeting and Special Fire Commission Meeting February 22, 2019. Commissioner Oldaker seconded the motion. The ayes and nays have been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION: Fire Marshal Ken Tyree

2. Captain Randy James-Frametown VFD and Firefighter Brandon Gum- Flatwoods VFD were recognized for saving two lives on a structure fire that took place in Braxton County on April 4, 2018. Captain Randy James was in the area when he heard the structure fire on his radio and was in close proximity to the address, so he decided to assist the Flatwoods VFD. He and Firefighter Gum were the first to arrive on the scene and he had to use forcible entry on an exterior and interior door to gain entry to the residence that was filling up with smoke. Then with the assistance of Brandon Gum, they used a wheelchair to transport a lady who had recently broke her hip and her husband out of the residence. The residents were transported to the hospital for smoke inhalation, but were later released.

Marshal Tyree presented a plaque to Captain James and he received a standing ovation.

Commissioner Gunnoe spoke of what an excellent example and great trainer Mr. James has always been and thanked him for his previous work on the commission.

Mr. James thanked everyone.

Commissioner Gunnoe commented on how much we enjoyed this type of presentation.

Marshal Tyree presented a plaque to Brandon Gum, thanked him for his service and he received a standing ovation as well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

• Legislative, Codes & Regulatory Committee

Commissioner George read the Legislative, Codes & Regulatory Committee Report from Meeting – April 24, 2019 as follows:

Legislative, Codes and Regulatory Committee Meeting Report
Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2019

Call to order

Commissioner George called to order the regular meeting of the Legislative, Codes and Regulatory Committee Meeting at 10:02AM on April 24, 2019 at the Double Tree, Huntington, WV.

Roll call

Deputy Sharp conducted the roll call. The following commissioners were present:

Edward George
Jim Oldaker
Mark Stroop

The following commissioners were absent: Ted Shriver, Tom Keefer

Unfinished Business - None

New business-

1. Consideration of All American Training Institute Home Inspector Course & CEU.

Deputy Fire Marshal Allan Casto presented information recommending the approval of the All American Training Institute Home Inspector Course & CEU Curriculum to the full Fire Commission.

There were no questions or comments.

Commissioner Oldaker made a motion to recommend the approval of the All American Training Institute Home Inspector Course & CEU Curriculum to the full Fire Commission, seconded by Commissioner Stroop. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

2. Consideration of Provisional Property Maintenance and Housing Inspectors

Per the request of the Fire Commission Deputy Casto presented all 5 Provisional Inspector Considerations to the Fire Commission.

There were no questions or comments.

Commissioner Oldaker made a motion to recommend the approval of Melissa Meachum, as a Provisional Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector, Nikkie Alley as a Provisional Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector, Brian Whittington as a Provisional Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector, Jason Neville as a Provisional Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector and Travis Young as a Provisional Commercial Building Inspector to the Full Fire Commission, seconded by Commissioner Stroop with all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Adjournment

Commissioner Stroop moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:09AM, second by Commissioner Oldaker. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Eastham made a motion to accept the report. It was seconded by Commissioner Mongold. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

• Fire Department Services Committee

Commissioner Mongold read the Committee Report from Meeting – April 24, 2019 as follows:

Fire Department Services Committee Meeting Report

Meeting Minutes

April 24, 2019

Call to Order

Commissioner Mongold called to order the regular meeting of the Fire Department Services Committee at 10:10AM on April 24, 2019 at the Double Tree, Huntington, WV.

Roll Call

Commissioner Mongold conducted a roll call. The following commissioners were present:

Dave Camp
Doug Mongold
Jim Oldaker
Mark Stroop

Phil Hart

The following commissioners were absent:

Unfinished Business- None

New Business

1. Fire Officer I and II Applications

Assistant State Fire Marshal Bradley Scott presented the following applications for approval:

Mathew Overton	FO 2	Wilderness
Evan Aldridge	FO 1	Summersville
Warren Royce	FO 1-2	Blue Ridge Mtn.
Brandon Thacker	FO 1-2	Chattaroy
Robert Culp	FO 1	City of Huntington
Clifford Hankins	FO 1	City of Huntington

There were no questions. Commissioner Oldaker made a motion to approve these applications and present to the full Fire Commission, seconded by Commissioner Stroop. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

2. Fire Departments to be Recertified:

Assistant State Fire Marshal Bradley Scott presented a list of departments that met all requirements to be recertified:

- Bunnors Ridges Marion County
- Rand Kanawha County
- Henlawson Logan County
- Main Harts Creek Logan County
- Roderfield McDowell County
- Lake Logan County
- Davy McDowell County
- Independents Jefferson County

- Citizens Jefferson County
- Blue Ridge Mtn. Jefferson County
- Wharncliffe Mingo County
- Huntington Cabell County
- Culloden Cabell County

Chief Jan Radar of Huntington was present and stated she appreciates the hard work done by the Fire Commission and it has been helpful with moving forward. She is pleased that corrections were made in 90 days as opposed to 180.

Commissioner Camp made a motion to approve these applications and recommendation to the full Fire Commission, seconded by Commissioner Hart. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

3. Fire Departments with perfect evaluations to be Recertified

Assistant State Fire Marshal Bradley Scott presented a list of departments for recertification that had perfect evaluations:

- Leon Mason County
- Flat Rock Mason County
- New Haven Mason County
- Barboursville Cabell County
- Paden City Wetzel County
- New Martinsville Wetzel County
- Bancs Doddridge County
- Folsom Wetzel County

Commissioner Camp made a motion to approve these applications and recommendation to the full Fire Commission, seconded by Commissioner Hart. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

4. Nicolas County Fire Board By-Laws Approval

Assistant State Fire Marshal Bradley Scott presented the Nicolas County Fire Board By-Laws for review, discussion and approval.

Commissioner Camp made a motion to approve the Nicholas County Fire Board By-Laws and recommendation to the full Fire Commission, seconded by Commissioner Stroop. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Deputy Scott spoke with commissioners regarding departments that shut down and they requested he make a report to the full committee.

Adjournment

Commissioner Camp moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:19AM, seconded by Commissioner Oldaker. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Hess made a motion to accept the report. It was seconded by Commissioner White. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

• Disciplinary Committee

Commissioner Eastham read the Disciplinary Committee Report from Meeting – April 24, 2019 as follows:

Disciplinary Committee Meeting Report
Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2019

Call to order

Commissioner Mongold called to order the regular meeting of the Disciplinary Committee Meeting at 10:20AM on April 24, 2019 at the Double Tree, Huntington, WV.

Roll call

Deputy Sharp conducted roll call. The following commissioners were present:

Edward George
Doug Mongold
Martin Hess

Absent: Ted Shriver, Carl Eastham

Unfinished business - None

New business

1. Fire Departments Receiving 180 Days to Achieve Compliance:

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to go into executive session at 10:23am, seconded by

Commissioner George. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to come out of executive session at 10:57am, seconded by Commissioner Stroop. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

It is noted that Commissioner Eastham is now present.

Commissioner George made a motion to find probable cause on 2019-010, 2019-011 and 2019-012 seconded by Commissioner Hess. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Deputy Scott gave his report to the Committee.

2019-010 The Point Pleasant VFD (Mason County) was evaluated on 01/30/19. Deficiencies were noted during the evaluation. The Fire Chief has requested 180 days to correct the deficiencies. It is staff's recommendation that the fire department be granted 180 days.

1 Member Need Level 1

2 Members Need Haz Mat

Utility 14 EVP

Note: Evaluated 9/2011 Requested 180 days Recertified 6/2012

Commissioner Mongold requested that Deputy Scott include the numbers of members on the reports for the departments. Deputy Scott will do so in the future.

2019-011 The Mason VFD (Mason County) was evaluated on 02/04/19. Deficiencies were noted during the evaluation. The Fire Chief has requested 180 days to correct the deficiencies. It is staff's recommendation that the fire department be granted 180 days.

Pump Test

Engine 51 MVP,EVP

Engine 53 MVP

Rescue 52MVP

Rescue 52 2 Air Paks and 2 Spare Cylinders

Utility 50 MVP

1 Member needs Level 1

4 Members need CPR/First Aid

Note: Evaluated 10/2011 Requested 180 days Recertified 10/2012

2019-012 The Valley VFD (Mason County) was evaluated on 02/05/19. Deficiencies were noted during the evaluation. The Fire Chief has requested 180 days to correct the deficiencies. It is staff's recommendation that the fire department be granted 180 days.

1 member needs Haz Mat

19 members need CPR
Tanker 24 needs 1 Air Pak
Tanker 24 needs Water Extinguisher
Rescue 26 needs 2 Air Paks 2 Spare Cylinders

Note: Evaluated 7/2016 Requested 180 days Recertified 12/2016

2019-014 The Cairo VFD (Ritchie County) was evaluated on 02/26/19. Due to several complaints received in our office. Deficiencies were noted during the evaluation. The Fire Chief has requested 180 days to correct the deficiencies. It is staff's recommendation that the fire department be granted 180 days.

Hose Test only half Tested
Pump Test
Engine 22 needs 4 Dry Chemical Extinguisher
Tanker 25 needs 2 SCBA & 2 Spares
Rescue 20 needs 4 SCBA & 4 Spares
6 members need Level 1
4 members need Haz Mat
14 members need CPR/First Aid
3 Asst. Chiefs need Fire Officer 1-2
1 Captain need Fire Officer 1

Note: Evaluated 6/2016 Requested 180 days Recertified 12/2016

2019-019 The Smoot VFD (Greenbrier County) was evaluated on 03/14/19. Due to a complaint received in our office. Deficiencies were noted during the evaluation. The Fire Chief has requested 180 days to correct the deficiencies. It is staff's recommendation that the fire department be granted 180 days.

No working Fire Engine
Pump Test
5 members need CPR/First Aid
Low Staffing (only 5 members)

Note: Evaluated 2/2015 Requested 180 days Recertified 12/2015

Commissioner Gunnoe asked Deputy Scott if Smoot voluntarily shut down. Deputy Scott replied in the positive.

A discussion was held concerning a lack of urgency to get a working Fire Engine in place.

The Committee also inquired if voluntarily shut down departments are still eligible for funding. Marshal Tyree and Deputy Scott both explained they are, why and some future policies that may make a change to the policy.

2019-020 The Hundred VFD (Wetzel County) was evaluated on 03/18/19. Deficiencies were noted during the evaluation. The Fire Chief has requested 180 days to correct the deficiencies. It is staff's recommendation that the fire department be granted 180 days.

Pump Test
Hose Test
1 member needs Level 1
3 members need Haz Mat
6 members need CPR/First Aid

Note: Evaluated 10/2012 Requested 180 days Recertified 6/2013

Deputy Scott told the committee that the department is currently trying to locate certificates that will negate some of these deficiencies. Commissioner Mongold had concerns if the certification had been completed.

Commissioner Gunnoe asked if this was a new fire chief and Deputy Scott responded it was.

2019-021 The Wileyville VFD (Wetzel County) was evaluated on 03/18/19. Deficiencies were noted during the evaluation. The Fire Chief has requested 180 days to correct the deficiencies. It is staff's recommendation that the fire department be granted 180 days.

1 member needs CPR/First Aid
EVP Tanker 12

Note: Evaluated 4/2013 Requested 180 days Recertified 8/2013

2019-022 The Silver Hill VFD (Wetzel County) was evaluated on 03/18/19. Deficiencies were noted during the evaluation. The Fire Chief has requested 180 days to correct the deficiencies. It is staff's recommendation that the fire department be granted 180 days.

Chief needs all certs
Asst Chief needs all certs
5 members need CPR/First Aid

Note: Evaluated 7/2012 Requested 180 days Recertified 12/2012

2019-023 The Grandview VFD (Wetzel County) was evaluated on 03/19/19. Deficiencies were noted during the evaluation. The Fire Chief has requested 180 days to correct the deficiencies. It is staff's recommendation that the fire department be granted 180 days.

3 members need CPR/First Aid

Note: Evaluated 7/2012 Requested 180 days Recertified 10/2012

2019-028 The Reader VFD (Wetzel County) was evaluated on 04/01/19. Deficiencies were noted during the evaluation. The Fire Chief has requested 180 days to correct the deficiencies. It is staff's recommendation that the fire department be granted 180 days.

SCBA Test
EVP Engine 92
Asst Chief needs Fire Officer 2
10 members need CPR/First Aid
2 members need Level 1 Certs
2 members need Haz Mat Certs

Note: Evaluated 4/2012 Requested 180 days Recertified 8/2012

Commissioner Mongold asked if they got their SCBA testing? Deputy Scott stated they had.

2019-029 The Pine Grove VFD (Wetzel County) was evaluated on 04/01/19. Deficiencies were noted during the evaluation. The Fire Chief has requested 180 days to correct the deficiencies. It is staff's recommendation that the fire department be granted 180 days.

Hose Test
Chief needs Fire Officer 2
3 members need CPR/First Aid

Note: Evaluated 5/2012 Requested 180 days Recertified 6/2012

2019-030 The Jacksonburg VFD (Wetzel County) was evaluated on 04/02/19. Deficiencies were noted during the evaluation. The Fire Chief has requested 180 days to correct the deficiencies. It is staff's recommendation that the fire department be granted 180 days.

Hose Test
9 members need CPR/First Aid
1 member needs Haz Mat

Note: Evaluated 4/2012 Requested 180 days Recertified 2/2013

Commissioner Hess made a motion to grant 180 day to achieve compliance with WV Fire Commission fire department evaluation standards to:

- Point Pleasant VFD
- Mason VFD
- Valley VFD
- Cairo VFD
- Smoot VFD
- Hundred VFD
- Wileyville VFD
- Silver Hill VFD

- Grandview VFD
- Reader VFD
- Pine Grove VFD
- Jacksonburg VFD

...and to recommend to the Full Commission, with a second by Commissioner Hess. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner George made motion to amend reports showing departments that voluntarily shut down, with a second by Commissioner Eastham. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

2. Consideration of 2018-003-HI

Deputy Casto explained the complaint and recommended it be dismissed due to rule §87CRS-5-8

Commissioner Hess made a motion to dismiss this complaint due to rule §87CSR-5-8 (Prohibitive Acts) and to recommend to the Full Commission, with a second by Commissioner George. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Adjournment

Commissioner Mongold moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:14am, seconded by Commissioner Hess. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Gunnoe made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Commissioner Oldaker. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

• Recruitment and Retention Committee

Commissioner Martin Hess read the Committee Report from Meeting – April 24, 2019 as follows:

Recruitment and Retention Committee Meeting Report

Meeting Minutes

April 24, 2019

Call to order

Commissioner Hess called to order the regular meeting of the Recruitment and Retention Committee Meeting at 11:16M on April 24, 2019 at the Double Tree, Huntington, WV.

Roll call

Deputy Sharp conducted roll call. The following commissioners were present:

Doug Estep
Jim Oldaker
Phil Hart
Martin Hess

Absent:

Unfinished Business- N/A

1. Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) Update.

Chief Deputy Sharp reported that:

56 departments applied this year – 25 new departments sent in applications for a total of 635 coins (5year – 150, 10year – 136, 15year -114 and 20year -231)

New business-

Commissioner Hess discussed social media by departments to try to recruit. Currently it is too soon to see if it is helping with recruitment.

Commissioner Mongold asked Deputy Sharp about a report from NC regarding using social media and the difficulties they have seen. He notes it is a problem everywhere.

Marshall Tyree reported monetary figures about the monies incentive that are being offered to individuals to join.

Commissioner Oldaker also listed some cost such as workers comp and the difficulties facing all departments.

A discussion was held about the insurance/workers comp cost with Commissioner Camp offering some helpful information concerning liability and intentional acts cost and whether it is optional. Deputy Sharp shared information from an email he received about why departments are paying the higher rate. Commissioner Camp noted there is rarely a claim but when there is one it is typically large. The discussion ended with the information that today's rates are not different than those in 2012.

Adjournment

Commissioner Hess moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:29. It was second by Commissioner Shriver. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Gunnoe made a motion to amend the minutes to correct a date. It was second by Commissioner Eastham. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to accept the report as corrected. It was seconded by Commissioner White. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

• **Training Committee**

Commissioner White read the Training Committee Report from Meeting – April 24, 2019 as follows:

Training Committee Meeting Report
Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2019

Call to order

Commissioner Gunnoe called to order the regular meeting of the Training Committee Meeting at 1:10:PM on April 24, 2019 at the Double Tree, Huntington, WV.

Roll call

Commissioner White conducted a roll call. The following commissioners were present:

Doug Estep
Edward George
Virgil White
Jim Oldaker

The following commissioners were absent: Tom Keefer

Unfinished Business

1. Consideration of Fire Officer Training Review for Volunteer Fire Departments.

Commission White asked if there were any questions or comments.

Commissioner Oldaker stated that he had reviewed the Fire Officer 1 and 2 homework assignments, and they had requested at the last meeting a copy of the material. Public Service Training had forwarded their info. Mr. Lambert addressed from the audience, the concerns of labor. Commissioner Oldaker states that any issues could be discussed at a stakeholder meeting and they plan to do so.

2. Consideration of WVSP Koren Powers Arson Investigation Courses Approval

Deputy Baltic discussed the request received from Asst. Fire Marshal George Harms requesting the approval of two courses taught by WVSP Koren Powers:

- Basic Fire Scene Evidence and Collection and Preservation
- Special Topics in Fire Scene Evidence Collection and Analysis

Marshal Tyree explained how there needs to be a WV version of the class and certificates issued from the Fire Commission.

Commissioner Gunnoe queried about the qualifications that would be needed to lead the class. Marshal Tyree explained Ms. Powers background and qualifications. Commissioner Gunnoe asked who else might teach the class and how is it different from current courses. Deputy Baltic suggested that if the Fire Commission would approve the two courses then it would have some needed backing.

Commissioner Estep made a motion to approve and recommend to the Full Fire Commission the Basic Fire Scene Evidence and Collection and Preservation and the Special Topics in Fire Scene Evidence Collection and Analysis Course, second by Commissioner George.

Discussion – Commissioner George asked this just a method for the officers to follow. Deputy Baltic answered in the affirmative. No more discussion was held. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

3. Consideration of Pilot Driver / Operator Course

Commissioner White – A question was asked of Commissioner White and he relayed that question. If someone already has the 56-hour course would they have to retake the entire course? A discussion was held. Commissioner White feels that would not be necessary. Commissioner White and Oldaker addressed the concerns in the audience about the course requirements. The consensus was that it wouldn't be unreasonable to request that individuals prove they have Level 1.

Commissioner Oldaker made a motion to recommend to the Full Fire Commission that if the applicant or person can produce their Module 1 certification and the Driver/ Operator Course is that is all they need then they wouldn't have to retake Module 1. If they only have the Driver/Operator then they would need to take Module 1. The motion was second by Commissioner Keefer. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

4. Consideration of Harper's Ferry Swiftwater Training Public Service Training Letter Response.

Chief Deputy Sharp stated a letter was received from Mendy Marshall, Executive Director WVDE Office of Adult Education with the steps being taken to address all future water rescue classes under the auspices of the WV Dept. of Education. These steps included procedure guidelines, swim test and instructor's checklist.

Mr. Ed Hicks from the Public Service Training came forward and reiterated what the letter contained and ensured the Commission that the plan would be followed in the future.

Gunnoe discussed the commissioners concerns and requested that the commissioners read over the responsive document this evening.

Mr. Hicks stated that there will be a sign off letter and noted that there will be documentation.

5. Consideration of “Managing a Nonprofit Volunteer Fire Department Training Course”

Steve Connolly spoke about the email he sent and discussed with the commission that there are still things to be worked out. Such as the type of delivery and accessibility. He also explained that a lot of the class contained a lot “what if” questions.

Commissioner Gunnoe hadn’t realized the class had already been taught.

Mr. Connolly explained that it had been taught twice and discussed the complexities of the class and the diversity of the attendees.

Commissioner White commented that it sounded very positive.

Connolly stated that both classes thought it needed to be a webinar but that the classes helped people find out just what they needed. There was a brief discussion about the deadline and the response to it.

Mr. Porter then spoke and wanted to remind the committee that it is a targeted training course designed for the board. He explained that the board members need to take the course. He agrees with Connolly assessment about the delivery of the course. He believes the process is near its’ completion.

Commissioner Gunnoe stated that there is no intention at this time to make this a mandatory class.

Mr. Porter does not agree with that decision.

New business

1. Consideration of WV Fire Fighter Reciprocity Forms

Marshal Tyree – Gave a brief description of the forms.

Deputy Fire Marshal Casto discussed the three (3) differences in the WV Fire Fighter Reciprocity Forms and his recommendation was to keep the one currently being used.

The commissioners reviewed the forms and discussed it. Deputy Casto showed hard copies of the forms to the Commissioners noting the differences.

Discussion was held about why the changes were made and the necessity of the hours or lack of necessity.

Commissioner Oldaker made a motion to approve form as noted as 6.C on their tablets (with the removal of total hours) and recommend to the full Fire Commission, seconded by Commissioner George. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

2. Staff/Counsel- Nothing to bring forth.

3. WVU Fire Service Extension

WVU Fire Service Extension Director Mark Lambert discussed the May 5 & 6 West Virginia Weekend and that it had to be cancelled due to lack of participation. He commented on ongoing discussion about doing an Extension documentary. Mr. Lambert explained how a groups Capstone project to assist the Extension with getting survey responses resulted in over 100 additional surveys.

4. WV Public Service Training/WV Dept. of Education

Public Service Training Coordinator Robbie Bailey stated that the Mineral County emergency training is available on the website.

IFSAC (Internationally Fire Service Accreditation Congress) testing would be scheduled if there is enough interest. He explained the requirements for IFSAC.

5. Misc. Comments / Questions

Commissioner White asked if there would be a need for reciprocity outside of Fire Fighter 1 & 2. It was suggested that maybe EVOC (Emergency Vehicle Operator's Course) may be a candidate.

Commissioner Gunnoe asked if military experience was being accepted and Marshal Tyree stated it was.

Adjournment

Commissioner George moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:04pm, seconded by Commissioner Oldaker. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Eastham made a motion to correct the minutes regarding the Pilot Driver/ Operator motion to "If they only have the Driver/Operator then they would need to take module 1". It was second by Commissioner White. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote the motion passed.

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to accept report as corrected. It was seconded by Commissioner Eastham. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

• **Operations Committee**

Fire Marshal Tyree stated that his staff will present their division reports: Deputy State Fire Marshal Allan Casto, Deputy State Fire Marshal Jason Baltic and Deputy State Fire Marshal Clarence Leake and that he will complete with the overall agency operations report.

Deputy State Fire Marshal Casto shared his report on the Fire Service Division for the period of February 1, 2019 through March 31, 2019:

	FEB	MAR	TWO MONTH TOTAL
Total Licenses Issued:	424	361	785
Total Certifications Issued:	29	44	73
Total Permits Issued:	47	71	118
Total Applications Processed:	290	278	568
Online Renewals:	69	79	148
Total Consumer Fireworks Certificates Issued			
Permanent:	0	6	6
Temporary:	0	6	6
Wholesaler:	1	7	8
Outdoor Storage:	0	12	12
Novelties:	1	0	1

Deputy State Fire Marshal Casto shared his report on the Fire Service Division for the period of January 1, 2019 through March 31, 2019:

Total Licenses Issued: 1,020

Total Certifications Issued: 99

Total Applications Processed: 802

Total Permits Issued: 145

Online Renewals: 202

Total Consumer Fireworks Certificates Issued

Permanent: 6
 Temporary: 6
 Wholesaler: 9
 Outdoor Storage: 12
 Novelties: 689

FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVICES						
RECENT ACTIVITY						
2019						
	FEB 2019	MAR 2019	TOTAL	2019 YTD	FY2019	FY2018
FIRE DEPT EVALUATIONS	4	12	16	26	72	72
DEPTS RECERTIFIED	12	0	12	12	61	67
DISCIPLINARY	7	0	7	7	41	44
180 DAYS	10	0	10	10	34	48
EMERGENCY VEHICLE PERMITS						
TOTAL PROCESSED	99	31	130	146	377	582
APPARATUS	12	6	18	34	86	193
PRIVATE	87	25	112	112	291	389
DEACTIVATED	122	49	171	172	452	619
APPARATUS	23	10	33	33	83	154
PRIVATE	99	39	138	139	369	465
VERIFIED AND REFUSED	32	9	41	43	95	111
APPARATUS	2	2	4	6	24	32
PRIVATE	30	7	37	37	71	79
NFIRS	FEB	MAR				
TOTAL REPORTS SUBMITTED	7,818	4,781	12,599	20,863	86,286	126,451
90 DAY GRACE	0	0	0	65	180	250
OUT OF GRACE	8	9	17	55	168	235
FUNDING LOSS	0	0	0	0	2	15
NFIRS CLASSES TAUGHT	0	0	0	0	2	0
COUNTIES REPRESENTED IN NFIRS	0	0	0	0	2	0
NUMBER OF NFIRS STUDENTS	0	0	0	0	4	0

FIRE OFFICERS	FEB	MAR				
TOTAL SUBMITTED	1	7	8	9	36	27
FIRE OFFICER 1	0	5	5	6	16	12
FIRE OFFICER 2	1	2	3	3	20	15
FOIA REQUESTS						
REQUESTS RECEIVED	12	19	31	46	117	170
REPORTS PROCESSED	16	71	87	114	279	311
REPORTS RESEARCHED	18	145	163	190	433	1,546

There were no questions from the Commission.

Deputy State Fire Marshal Baltic’s report on the Investigation Division for the period of February 1, 2019 through March 31, 2019:

Total Number of Fires 01FEB19 to 31MAR19 – 105

Accidental – 14

Incendiary – 20

Undetermined – 70

Fatality Total 01FEB19 to 31MAR19 – 10

Injury Total 01FEB19 to 31MAR19 – 2

Total \$ loss 01FEB19 to 31MAR19 - \$4,336,158

Educational - \$0

Mercantile - \$0

Other Structures - \$0

Outside / Special Properties - \$5,001

Residential - \$3,434,907

Storage - \$182,250

Vehicles - \$24,000

Total \$ loss 01FEB19 to 31MAR19 that are declared Incendiary - \$182,000

Total number of fires cleared by arrest or exceptional means – 8

Deputy State Fire Marshal Baltic’s report on the Investigation Division for the period of January 1, 2019 through March 31, 2019:

Total Number of Fires 01JAN19 to 31MAR19 – 149

Accidental – 23

Incendiary – 30

Undetermined – 95

Fatality Total 01JAN19 to 31MAR19 – 16

Injury Total 01JAN19 to 31MAR19 – 4

Total \$ loss 01JAN19 to 31MAR19 - \$6,049,588
Educational - \$0
Mercantile - \$0
Other Structures - \$0
Outside / Special Properties - \$10,001
Residential - \$4,973,237
Storage - \$182,350
Vehicles - \$24,000

Total \$ loss 01JAN19 to 31MAR19 that are declared Incendiary - \$317,800

Total number of fires cleared by arrest or exceptional means – 13

There were no questions from the Commission.

Deputy State Fire Marshal Leake shared his report on the Inspection and Plans Review Division for the period of January 1, 2019 through March 31, 2019:

2071 Inspections Conducted

447 Plans Reviewed (Does not count walk-in consultations with architects and designers)

50 Occupancy Permits Issued

687 Licenses Checked

Complaint Investigations:

- Investigated fourteen (14) fire code complaints
- Investigated five (5) electrical complaints
- Investigated six (6) blasting complaints resulting in three (3) citations
- Investigated four (4) licensing complaint resulting in four (4) citations

Training:

- Two personnel taught a two-day class at the West Virginia Code Officials meeting in Flatwoods
- Two personnel attended a one-day class on ethanol hazards
- Two personnel attended a four-day class on Interviewing and Interrogation

Court Hearings:

- Cabell County – One (1) conviction for performing electrical work without a license
- Greenbrier County – One (1) conviction for fire code violations
- Braxton County – Fire Code violations – Case continued

Administered five (5) licensing tests

Assisted Investigation Division with a fire fatality in Kanawha County
Assisted Fire Department Services with evaluations in Berkeley, Mason and Ritchie Counties
Four personnel served as judges in the annual state VICA skills competition
Assisted ABCC and Berkeley County Sheriff's Office with nightclub inspection

Investigated accidental fire at South Central Regional Jail
Illegal sales of fireworks in Kanawha County resulting in citation and confiscation – pled guilty
Calhoun County Courthouse detail for murder trial
Attended Franklin Fire Department and Maysville Fire Department banquets
Court convictions in Fayette, Morgan and Raleigh Counties for fire code violations
Conducted exit checks at various basketball games

Commissioner Gunnoe stated how can they get this done with one less person. Referring to Deputy Leake's retirement.

Deputy Leake thanked the commission for their work, how much he enjoyed his job and how blessed he is.

Commissioner Gunnoe thanked Deputy Leake and stated it would take years to bring someone new up to his level. He thanked him for his dedication to his job and how much he will be missed.

State Fire Marshal Tyree gave a report on the Public Education efforts for the period of February 1, 2019 through March 31, 2019:

Public Education Accomplishments

FEBRUARY TO APRIL 2019

Media Releases – 10

- W.Va. State Fire Marshals charge Cabell County man
- W.Va. Fire Marshals investigate burglary and arson arising from theft of deceased war hero's belongings
- Investigator helps secure murder convictions, life sentences for W.Va. mom who killed her two sons
- W.Va. State Fire Marshals determine church fire to be arson
- Change your clocks, Change Your Batteries
- Investigators seeking further information in Clay County fatal fire
- W.Va. State Fire Marshals charge Barbour County woman
- Ritchie County man charged with setting fire to ex-girlfriend's property
- W.Va. State Fire Marshals arrest man in Putnam arson case
- W.Va. State Fire Marshals arrest 5 former firefighters in Cabell arson cases

Social Media interactions – 257 new Facebook subscribers since Feb. 5th, weekly safety messages and news updates are disseminated through Facebook and Twitter.

Top engagement post: Change your clocks, change your batteries

13,701 people reached

653 post clicks

Public Education Network – 4 new members since Feb, 120 total members since April 2016.

Public interactions completed – 4

National Consumer Protection Week Safety Booth Set-up

Deaf Awareness Day

ESCAPE Conference

Roane Co. Sound the Alarm

Ongoing Projects:

Sound the Alarm Partnership:

This spring the American Red Cross wants to install 100,000 free smoke alarms and raise funds for lifesaving services in more than 100 cities in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands during Sound the Alarm home fire safety and smoke alarm installation events, April 27 - May 12, 2019. In West Virginia their goal is to install 2,000 alarms. They have three targeted areas that will host large rally points, Parkersburg (May 4th), Princeton (April 27th) and South Charleston (TBD). All fire departments are encouraged to get involved to install smoke alarms in their communities. The Red Cross will also be looking for volunteers. Sign-up for the program begins on March 1st.

History Project - 110th anniversary of the founding of the WV Fire Marshal's Office will be celebrated in 2019 and as a part of this celebration, research is being done to include photos and bios of Fire Marshals' past. An anniversary edition booklet of the WVSFMO will be made available along with other commemorative items. To celebrate the anniversary, we are collecting interviews from former employees and retired Marshals and Deputies. The video will be available for viewing at the open house and 110th Anniversary celebration.

Safety Summit

The West Virginia State Fire Marshal's office is proud to host the 3rd Annual WV Fire Safety Summit Dinner sponsored in partnership with the National Fire Protection Association. The 2019 Summit will be held on Thursday, May 9th, beginning at 5pm with a dinner followed by topics on, "Creating a Public Education Experience", "Motivating your Audience for Behavior Change," The purpose of this summit is to bring together all stakeholders who have an interest in who have an interest in reducing risk and protecting life in their communities. These stakeholders include but are not limited to: Fire Service organizations, Community Service organizations, Industry leaders, Seniors, Family and Children Advocacy groups; this summit is for all willing and able to learn, share, and network with others within communities.

Operations Report by State Fire Marshal Tyree:

Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission:

- **Personnel Staffing:**
 - **New Employee:** Joe Vacchio, Investigation Div.; Jody Zinn, Regulatory and Licensing, Services; Richard Hacker Plans Examiner, Inspection Div.
 - **Promotions/Reallocations:** Courtney Aston, Admin Svcs Asst 1, Administration; L. Price to ASFM 1; L. Cogar to ASFM 1; B. Palmer to ASFM 2; S. Petry ASFM 2; J. Holben ASFM 2; N. Kilmer ASFM 2, D. Stewart ASFM 2, Inspection; J. England, ASFM 1, Investigation
 - **Resignation/Termination/Retirement: Joe Leake, Inspection Division 40 yrs, 10 months Agency Service 42 years total State Service.**

- We have **7 vacancies** within the agency (**Transfer of two positions to DAS (DMAPS):**

one Administrative Svcs Mgr 1 and one Office Asst 3; , three ASFM in Training: for Inspections and one Investigations, one Public Information Specialists de-activated currently; one, Admin Services Asst 1; and one Licensing Regulatory Specialist in Services Division.

- **Legislative Bills update:**
 - **SB 177** Change to 87-4, Commercial Energy Code & ASHRAE 90-1
 - **HB 2872 Codifying our Authority to Carry & Req. assistance of L.E.**
 - **SB 4** Making Municipal Home Rule a Permanent Program
 - **Is not retroactive to bring Clarksburg & Bridgeport back in**
 - **SB 345** Relating to fire service equipment and training funds for VFDs
 - **Also removed the required report having to be done based on SB 625 pertaining to VFD oversight by Counties**
 - Still required to report on **Reciprocity program (Info gathered by Deputy Casto)**
- Prior to April 15,2011 all firefighter reciprocity requests were handled by The WVU Fire Ext. Service
- At the below noted State Fire Commission Meeting RESA now know as PST, the following was adopted.
- **“APRIL 15, 2011 State Fire Commission Meeting**

Approval of two forms submitted by RESA for use by firefighters requesting equivalency for courses completed in other jurisdictions – Commissioner James stated the forms were submitted by RESA. The forms are to be used if a firefighter comes in from another state and needs to know how to apply in West Virginia for credit of courses taken elsewhere. There are two forms, one is called Firefighter Equivalency Application and the other is Verification of Firefighter Training. Commission James made a motion to accept these forms. Commissioner Goodwin seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.”

- 87 CSR 8
Effective Date: September 6, 2013
87-8-5 Equivalencies were introduced.
- During the 2018 Legislative Session an enhancement to the program was added:
Courtesy Firefighter Certification program was added by West Virginia Code §29-3-5e, as amended by **SB 625**.
- **Need to obtain TOTAL # of people applying for Reciprocity from each Training Provider**
 - **HB 2004** Providing for a program of instruction in workforce preparedness
 - **Met with WV DOE and Division of Labor**
 - **Determined no update Electrical Voc Tech program**
 - **HB 2439** Related to fire service equipment and training for VFD & Combo
 - **HB 2958** Authorizing **State Auditor** to conduct regular financial reviews & audits of all VFDs.
- **We'll be working on some language for next year's session:** Codification of Salaries into Statute and requiring all future hires to attend 16-week basic L.E. course @ WVSP Academy

- **Also:** Stakeholders Meetings for FPW Rule 103-4; 87-1 and 87-4
- **Fire Department Loss of Funding:**
 - (The two deadlines involved are the quarter deadline and then 90 days later, the grace period deadline. Other than being decertified, not submitting their NFIRS incident reports by the prescribed due date is the only way to lose their funding. It has nothing to do with the 180-day issue. Once they miss the grace period deadline, the money is lost and reallocated to the departments that were complying. There is no getting it back after hat.) Share info rec. letters from Treasury; we'll be making an inquiry to see if there are earlier notification/communications that can be provided to help and assist departments to prevent the loss of their distributions.

Reminder

110th Anniversary in 2019

Anniversary Logo; Commemorative Items

July 15, 2019 Open House Birthday

Employee Dinner / Dance **Date TBD**

WV PUBLIC SAFETY Expo Classes: two Fire Marshal Track Code Enforcement classes; Defensive Tactics Fire Marshal Courses Below **(which will be limited to each employees choosing; reduced to technique or observation only.**

May 9 (Thursday)

0800-1200 Takedowns- Defensive Tactics

Instructors: Captain Ted Malone and Corporal Richie Basford, Charleston Police Department

May 9 (Thursday)

1300-1700 Handcuffing- Defensive Tactics

May 10 (Friday)

0800-1200 Response to Aggression- Defensive Tactics

May 10 (Friday)

1300-1700 Weapon Retention- Defensive Tactics

- **Reminder of our 3rd Annual Fire Safety Summit**
 - May 9th from 5:45 – 8:30 at the Chas Coliseum & Convention Ctr
 - Dinner begins @ 5pm with program to directly follow
- **Partnership with the American Red Cross** continues they'll have another Sound the Alarm; Smoke Alarm Installation project April 27 to May 12; there is already a large commitment for single day project by Wood County Fire Departments on May 4th with a goal of installing 1500 smoke alarms that day. I'd encourage each of us to get involved in whatever way we can.
- **Visits and Meetings**
 - Wiley Ford (Mineral Co.) VFD 85th Anniversary Recognition
 - Mercer Co. Fire Association Meeting
 - Three Members recognized for 60, 57, & 52 years
 - 60-year Member Dave Malone (still very active)
 - WVU MPA Capstone Project on WV VFD Funding (Morgantown)

NOTIFICATION of Issued 30-day Orders

- IEI Warehouse Fire Post Inspection of other warehouses:
 - 100 60th St Vienna
 - 2969 Greenhills Rd Ravenswood
 - 3901 Camden Ave Parkersburg

- **Commendations:**
 - **May 1st** Governor's Office to recognize several DMAPS members including five SFMO: J. Baltic, S. Petry, M. Stewart, P. Alloway, L. Cogar
- Entertain questions!

Gunnoe noted that departments had concerns over House Bill 2530 which covers Recovery Homes and that the concern was that it somewhat lessened the fire code requirements. A discussion was held.

There were no more questions.

Marshal Tyree addressed the commission explaining how much we will miss Deputy Leake, that we considered him our resident historian and how the office personnel need to extract as much of his knowledge while we can.

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to accept the operations report, it was second by Commissioner White. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Commissioner Gunnoe requested that the forms

Consideration of Harper's Ferry Swiftwater Incident Public Service Training Letter Response

Chief Deputy Sharp stated a letter was received from Mendy Marshall, Executive Director WVDE Office of Adult Education with the steps being taken to address all future water rescue classes under the auspices of the WV Dept. of Education. These steps included procedure guidelines, swim test and instructor's checklist.

Commissioner White motion that we accept the letter, it was second by Commissioner Mongold. With the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote the motion passed.

Consideration of Fire Officer Training Review for Volunteer Fire Departments

No action taken. Tabled until June Fire Commission Meeting.

Consideration of Pilot Driver/Operator Course

Commissioner White made a motion that if the applicant or person can produce their Module 1 certification and the Driver/ Operator Course is that is all they need then they wouldn't have to retake Module 1. If they only have the Driver/Operator then they would need to take Module 1. The motion was second by Commissioner Eastham. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Consideration of Rand Volunteer Fire Department Re-certification

Commissioner Gunnoe stated that Rand VFD has achieved compliance as stated in the Fire Department Service Report. No further action needed.

Consideration of “Managing a Nonprofit Volunteer Fire Department Training Course”

Gunnoe we all support it and recognize how it would be beneficial but at this time we don’t have any intentions to add any additional requirements.

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to approve the outline of the course, it was second by Commissioner White. With all the ayes and nays haven been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Consideration of Fire Depts Receiving 180 Days to Achieve Compliance: Point Pleasant VFD, Mason VFD, Valley VFD, Cairo VFD, Smoot VFD, Hundred VFD, Wileyville VFD, Silver Hill VFD, Grandview VFD, Reader VFD, Pine Grove VFD and Jacksonburg VFD.

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to grant 180 Days to Achieve Compliance to the Point Pleasant VFD, Mason VFD, Valley VFD, Cairo VFD, Smoot VFD, Hundred VFD, Wileyville VFD, Silver Hill VFD, Grandview VFD, Reader VFD, Pine Grove VFD and Jacksonburg VFD., with a second by Commissioner George. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Consideration of Fire Officer 1 & 2 Applications: Mathew Overton-FO 2, Evan Aldridge-FO 1, Warren Royce-FO 1&2, Brandon Thacker-FO 1&2, Robert Culp-FO 1, Clifford Hankins-FO 1

Commissioner White made a motion to accept and approve the following applications for Fire Officer Training Certifications:

Mathew Overton	FO 2	Wilderness
Evan Aldridge	FO 1	Summersville
Warren Royce	FO 1-2	Blue Ridge Mtn.
Brandon Thacker	FO 1-2	Chattaroy
Robert Culp	FO 1	City of Huntington
Clifford Hankins	FO 1	City of Huntington

Second by Commissioner Hess. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Consideration of Recertification of Fire Departments: Bunnors Ridges VFD, Rand VFD, Henlawson VFD, Harts Creek VFD, Roderfield VFD, Lake VFD, Davy VFD, Independents VFD, Citizens VFD, Blue Ridge Mtn. VFD, Wharncliffe VFD, Culloden VFD and Huntington Fire Department. Perfect Evaluations: Leon VFD, Flat Rock VFD, New Haven VFD, Barboursville VFD, Paden City VFD, New Martinsville VFD, Bancs VFD and Folsom VFD.

Commissioner Hess made a motion to accept and approve Recertification of the following fire departments, noting they are coming out of a 180-day compliance period:

Bunnors Ridges	Marion County
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Rand	Kanawha County
Henlawson	Logan County
Main Harts Creek	Logan County
Roderfield	McDowell County
Lake	Logan County
Davy	McDowell County
Independents	Jefferson County
Citizens	Jefferson County
Blue Ridge Mtn.	Jefferson County
Wharnccliffe	Mingo County
Huntington	Cabell County
Culloden	Cabell County

Second by Commissioner Eastham, with all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to accept and approve recertification of the following fire departments, noting these departments had perfect evaluations:

Leon	Mason County
Flat Rock	Mason County
New Haven	Mason County
Barboursville	Cabell County
Paden City	Wetzel County
New Martinsville	Wetzel County
Bancs	Doddridge County
Folsom	Wetzel County

Second by Commissioner Eastham with all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Consideration of WVSP Koren Powers Arson Investigation Courses Approval

Chief Deputy Sharp discussed the request received from Asst. Fire Marshal George Harms requesting the approval of two course taught by WVSP Koren Powers:

- Basic Fire Scene Evidence and Collection and Preservation
- Special Topics in Fire Scene Evidence Collection and Analysis

Commission Eastham made a motion to approve the Basic Fire Scene Evidence and Collection and Preservation and the Special Topics in Fire Scene Evidence Collection and Analysis Course, it was second by Commissioner Hess. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Consideration of WV Firefighter Reciprocity Form

Commissioner Gunnoe asked Marshal Tyree to clarify the form chosen by the Commission. Marshal Tyree stated the form will be the one defined on your tablet as 6C but there will not be any hours on the form. He also noted there are a lot of times that there are fire departments within the that

do not realize all the programs out there for them. We continue to find ways to get the information out, but we are currently using all the means we have.

Commissioner Gunnoe - Do you go to the Associations meeting and speak? That might be a means of updating the members.

Marshal Tyree said he will look into that possibility.

Commissioner Oldaker made a motion to use the form defined as 6C on the tablet (without hours) for WV Fire Fighter Reciprocity, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Gunnoe requested that the SFMO provide information to the commission about the completion rates of the modules.

Consideration of Retiree Firearm Requests

Deputy Sharp stated that the Fire Commission has received two requests for retiree firearms to be issued to Deputy Fire Marshal Clarence Joe Leake, who is stated to retire on April 30, 2019 and former retired Fire Marshal Walter Smittle, who served 24 years as the WV State Fire Marshal. Perhaps we could present it during the 110

Discussion: None

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to grant retiree Clarence Joe Leake his firearm pending his official April 30, 2019 retirement, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to grant retiree Walter Smittle his firearm, seconded by Commissioner Keefer. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Consideration of Nicholas County Fire Board By-Laws Approval

Commissioner Oldaker made a motion to recommend the approval of the Nicholas County Fire Board By-Laws, seconded by Commissioner Hess. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Consideration of 2018-003-HI

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to dismiss this complaint due to rule §87CSR-5-8 (Prohibitive Acts), with a second by Commissioner Hess. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Consideration of All American Training Institute Home Inspector Course & CEU.

Deputy Fire Marshal Allan Casto presented information recommending the approval of the All American Training Institute Home Inspector Course & CEU Curriculum.

Commissioner Eastham made a motion to approve the All American Training Institute Home Inspector Course & CEU Curriculum, seconded by Commissioner Hess. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Consideration of Provisional Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector- Melissa Meachum, City of Princeton.

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to approve Melissa Meachum as a Provisional Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Consideration of Provisional Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector- Nikkie Alley, City of Princeton.

Commissioner Oldaker made a motion to approve Nikkie Alley as a Provisional Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Consideration of Provisional Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector- Brian Whittington, Cities of Montgomery and Smithers.

Commissioner Hess made a motion to approve Brian Whittington as a Provisional Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Consideration of Provisional Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector- Jason Neville, City of Hundred.

Commissioner White made a motion to approve Jason Neville as a Provisional Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector, seconded by Commissioner Eastham. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Consideration of Provisional Commercial Building Inspector- Travis Young, City of Wheeling.

Commissioner Eastham made a motion to approve Travis Young as a Provisional Commercial Building Inspector, seconded by Commissioner White. With all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Consideration of New Financial Examination Requirements for Volunteer Fire Departments

Steve Connelly addressed the Commission but first started with explaining how Deputy Leake has again and again delayed his retirement to see the SFMO through times of change and need. He thanked him for his dedication.

Mr. Connelly stated on behalf of the auditor's office Bill 2598 has gotten a lot of attention. Letters were sent out to all fire departments requesting financial information. He explained the intention of the bill and that if additional time is required, they will try to provide it. Once it is determined how many auditors will be required, how much work will be needed and training is completed for the new auditors, Audits will take place in late Spring of 2020. He listed what type of things will be on the audit. He also noted that the auditor's office feels it is time to include the fire departments into the PCard program and what benefits that would provide. Such as savings and real time data that will help monitor where

expenditures are at. Free accounting software available through the auditor's office could give the departments the means to provide financial transparency to those in their district.

Commissioner Mongold thought the departments that are currently using a purchase card of their own choosing received the cash back rewards itself. Would they be mandated to use the State PCard since the state would then receive the rewards?

Mr. Connelly stated they wouldn't. He then discussed the amount of savings potential. He also discussed a draft bill that would use "Local" issued WV Purchasing card profits deposited in the WV state Fire Marshal's fund to be used for grants to fire departments.

CORRESPONDENCE: Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Sharp stated that there wasn't any additional correspondence:

SPEAKERS:

Mr. Ray Salino discussed a complaint that he filed with the WV State Fire Marshal's Office. He said he had received a lack of correspondence from the WV State Fire Marshal's Office and all he could find was on the minutes from the February Fire Commission Meeting. He feels that this is an ethical issue and doesn't know where the complaint is in the process. He then went over a report that was part of the complaint.

Commissioner Gunnoe recalled the issue. He stated at first the Commission felt there may be an issue but after reading the rule and clarification it did not find probable cause. He discussed the limitations that the WV Fire Marshal's Office has in regulatory issues concerning Home Inspectors and that stakeholders worked with the WV Fire Marshal's office and the WV Legislature to create the Home Inspectors Rule. He also mentioned that some of these types on incidents need to be settled in a civil law suit. He told Mr. Saulino that if at all possible, the WV Fire Marshal's office will provide a letter addressing his complaint and thanked him for bringing his concerns to the Commission.

Mr. Saulino thanked the Commission for allowing him to do so.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Commissioner Hess stated that wanted to thank Marshall Tyree and his staff.

Commissioner Mongold noted that Commissioner George will be in NY for a service for a Fire Fighter that was killed in Afghanistan and thanks him for representing the Fire Commission. He requests for all of the Commissioners take times like this to represent us. He asked that the State Fire Marshal's office create business cards for the Commissioners for future use at things like this.

Commissioner Hess noted how the Gilmer Fire Department has assisted other departments at funeral services and the families are very appreciative and he especially thanked Assistant State Fire Marshal Alloway.

2019 Fire Commission Meeting Dates & Locations Announced:

June 6 & 7 (Thursday & Friday) Charleston, WV – WV Fire Marshal’s Office.

August 14 & 15 (Wednesday & Thursday) Charles Town, Jefferson County, WV in conjunction with the WV State Fireman’s Association Convention.

October 17 & 18 (Thursday & Friday) Charleston, WV – WV Fire Marshal’s Office.

December 5 & 6 (Thursday & Friday) Stonewall Jackson Resort, Roanoke, WV.

Other events you may be interested in for 2019:

WVU Junior Firefighter Camp, Weston, WV June 15-20, 2019

WV State Fire Marshal’s 110th Anniversary, Charleston Open House Celebration- July 15, 2019

World Scout Jamboree, Glen Jean, WV July 22 – August 2, 2019

WV Fireman’s Association 2019 Convention Dates. Arrive on Wednesday evening August 14. Opening of convention is Thursday August 15, 2019 through Saturday August 17.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING(S):

Next regularly scheduled Fire Commission Committee Meetings will take place Thursday, June 6, 2019 at the WV State Fire Marshal’s Office, 1207 Quarrier Street, Charleston, WV beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Next regularly scheduled Fire Commission Meeting will take place Friday, June 7, 2019 at the WV State Fire Marshal’s Office, 1207 Quarrier Street, Charleston, WV beginning at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURN:

Commissioner White made a motion to adjourn at 11:00am, seconded by Commissioner Oldaker, with all the ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.
